

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6765
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2005
EXPLORATION OF COAL BED METHANE
Chowdhury Shri Bikash

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to explore the coal bed methane in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and
- (c) the present status of the exploration, location-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARL NARAYAN RAO):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per information received from Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, so far, 13 blocks have been awarded under two rounds of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) bidding under CBM policy and 3 blocks awarded on nomination basis, covering an area of 7809 sq. km. in different coalfields of the country. The present exploration status of these blocks, location-wise is given in enclosed Statement.